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Alexander Majors House
8145 State Line
Kansas City
Jackson County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1801

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ALEXANDER MAJORS HOUSE

HABS No. MO-1801

Location: 8145 State Line, Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Built 1855, "...a two-story, white frame house with double recessed entrance portico,...built...by Alexander Majors, member of the overland freighting firm of Russell, Majors and Waddell....

The house, originally containing nine rooms, was built on land purchased by Majors' firm as a "home corral" for the oxen used in the freighting business. Below the old home was the caravan camp where the great wagon trains were made up....

Alexander Majors (1814-1900) was born in Kentucky and came with his parents to Lafayette County, Missouri, about 1819. The family later moved to Jackson County....

In 1858, when the firm obtained the government contract to freight supplies to General A.S. Johnston's army in the Mormon War, Majors moved to Nebraska City, and his home came into the possession of his eldest daughter, Mrs. Samuel Poteet, whose descendants owned it until 1910. The house is now the property of Majors' great-granddaughter, Miss Louise J. Johnston, who is restoring the building to its original appearance."

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Workers of the Writers' Program of the Work Projects Administration in the State of Missouri, Missouri, A Guide to the "Show Me" State, (New York, Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1941), 258-259.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Piaget-van Ravenswaay Survey consists of a number of photographs, primarily of sites and structures in Missouri, which were taken before 1938 by Alexander Piaget and after that by Paul Piaget, both in conjunction with Charles van Ravenswaay. Photographs of buildings were incorporated into the HABS collection in 1985 by Laura Rupp and in 1986 by Deborah Fulton, HABS historians. A master list is available in the ~~MO-1800~~ records for MO-1800.